

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS (US) :

1. An external cover covering an attaching section which is provided in a main unit of a first device to fit a second device to the main unit of the first device,

the external cover, when the second device is not fitted to the main unit of the first device, serving a first function as a cover for the attaching section,

the external cover, when the second device is fitted to the main unit of the first device, serving a second function which is different from the first function while maintaining the first function, such that the external cover is provided to the first device or the second device in a state different from a state when the second device is not fitted to the main unit of the first device.

2. The external cover according to claim 1, wherein:

one of the first device and the second device is provided with object determination means which determines whether or not there exists any object at a predetermined position,

prior to fitting the second device to the main unit of the first device, the external cover is detached from the attaching section, and

while the second device is fitted to the main unit of the first device, the external cover exists at the position

thus determined by the object determination means, and is attached to an device which is not provided with the object determination means of the first device and the second device.

3. The external cover according to claim 2, wherein:  
the object determination means is an actuator, and  
the second function is a function as a shock-absorbing member with respect to the actuator.

4. The external cover according to claim 1, including a plurality of surfaces,

wherein:

when the external cover is attached to the first device, a function of the external cover is changed between the first function and the second function depending on which surface of the plurality of surfaces is exposed to outside of the first device.

5. The external cover according to claim 4, wherein:

while the second device is fitted to the main unit of the first device, a transporting target can be delivered between the main unit of the first device and the second device, and

a surface of the external cover exposed to outside of

the main unit of the first device serves the second function by guiding the transporting target to be transported.

6. The external cover according to claim 5, wherein:

the second device has a guide member which guides the transporting target to be transported, and

when the second device is fitted to the main unit of the first device, the guide member and a surface of the external cover exposed to outside of the first device overlap each other.

7. The external cover according to claim 1, wherein:

the second function is a function associated with the second device.

8. An image forming device including: an attaching section for fitting other device thereto; and an external cover covering the attaching section,

wherein:

when the other device is not fitted to the image forming device, the external cover serves a first function as a cover for the attaching section, and

when the other device is fitted to the image forming device, the external cover serves a second function which

is different from the first function while maintaining the first function, such that the external cover is provided to the image forming device or the other device in a state different from a state when the other device is not fitted to the image forming device.

9. A control system comprising:

a first device;

a second device; and

an external cover covering an attaching section which is provided in a main unit of the first device to fit the second device to the main unit of the first device,

wherein:

the external cover, when the second device is not fitted to the main unit of the first device, serves a first function as a cover for the attaching section,

the external cover, when the second device is fitted to the main unit of the first device, serves a second function which is different from the first function while maintaining the first function, such that the external cover is provided to the first device or the second device in a state different from a state when the second device is not fitted to the main unit of the first device, and

if the external cover does not serve the second function when the second device is fitted to the main unit

of the first device, at least the main unit of the first device,  
of the main unit of the first device and the second device,  
is caused not to operate.